

PRICES DISPUTE IS PUT UP TO WILSON

Industries Board to Halt "Stabilizing" Work and Hines Stands Pat.

MESSAGES GO TO PARIS

Railroad Chief Reiterates His Determination Not to Accept Dictation.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—President Wilson has been asked whether the Industrial Board of the Department of Commerce shall quit. Until the President answers or until his return the Board will not proceed with price stabilizing in regard to lumber or other products or commodities until its status has been redetermined by the President.

An announcement to this effect was made to-day by Secretary of Commerce Redfield, who initiated the Industrial Board and the price stabilization program.

The Secretary and Chairman Peek of the board joined in a cable to the President following a conference in which they were advised by Assistant Secretary of Commerce Sweet and Lee Thurman, solicitor for the Department. This action followed the decisive announcement by Director General Hines that he would not accept the board's action with respect to steel prices. Negotiations between the railroad administration and the board are definitely off. Both sides issued long public statements to-day defending their positions.

It was pointed out to-day that the President has before him the arguments of both sides to the controversy, the Industrial Board having cabled on March 27 and the railroad administration on the following day. The President has waited for a harmonizing of these views.

Await Action of President.

The President again has been asked for a decision, it is said, because he is the creator of the board and furnished the funds for its operation and only he can accept the resignation of the board or its spokesmen. These resignations will be given, it is understood, if the President is disposed to back the Director General. The Industrial Board and the Secretary of Commerce are confident that if he does not he will issue definite instructions overruling the refusal of the Director General to accept the board's action.

Meanwhile the fight is getting warmer. Secretary Redfield stated to-day that there was the testimony of six men to one that the railroad administration had in the Industrial Board's sessions accepted all the steel prices with the exception of those on rails. He stated further that when Director General Hines had said the prices were too high he had submitted the information upon which they were determined and asked Mr. Hines if he had any information that was contrary or would justify lower prices. To this he says he has received no answer.

Mr. Peek in his statement declares "the public must be informed of the magnitude of the solemn responsibility assumed by the Director-General in his important decision."

"The Industrial Board," he says, "was formed to carry out a perfectly defined industrial policy to which the Government, represented by the President, the Cabinet and the Director-General, was fully committed." He declares there is no ambiguity in the policy or the performance under it, but that at this late date the important essential to the success of the plan has been denied by the Director-General, and the Government is exhibited as setting up an industrial policy with one hand and destroying it with the other.

Asks Hines to Show Cause.

Mr. Peek puts it up to Mr. Hines to have the President abandon the policy set up for him by the board and to assume full responsibility, or to demonstrate the policy or to demonstrate that the Industrial Board has failed. To this Mr. Hines replies in part:

"Mr. Peek says the Government has set up an industrial policy with one hand and torn it down with the other. The fact is the industrial policy which has been interfered with by one which was not set up by the Government but appears through some misconception to have been initiated by the Industrial Board itself. The policy authorized by the Government was the policy of establishing a committee which would endeavor to bring Government purchasing agencies, including the Railroad Administration, and producers of certain commodities together by voluntary action on reduced prices at which the Government purchasing agencies, including the Railroad Administration, would be justified in buying freely."

"Mr. Peek instead of attempting to carry out this specific policy entered, despite the Railroad Administration's notification, upon a very different policy of fixing prices, with a virtual insistence that the Railroad Administration must buy at those prices regardless of its judgment."

"Further, his committee even proposed the prices as being prices below which the general public ought not to expect to buy during the rest of this calendar year. His real cause of chagrin at the present time is that the policy thus set up without Government authority is not supported by the Railroad Administration as to steel prices when the Railroad Administration is convinced that those prices are excessive."

Says Nation Is Not Alarmed.

"Mr. Peek also professes great alarm at the consequence that will result from the steel interests of the country being subjected to the monopolistic buying power of the Railroad Administration. If I am not mistaken one of the gravest causes of concern to the people of this country for many years has been the persistent suspicion that the country was subjected to the menace of a monopolistic selling power on the part of the steel interests and therefore I do not believe the country will share Mr. Peek's alarm that the Railroad Administration's purchasing power of steel will be prejudicial to the public interest."

"I believe the same considerations will keep the public from being alarmed by Mr. Peek's suggestion that all railroad purchases of steel will be thrown into a 'monopoly of powerful producers.'"

"I have already made it clear that the Railroad Administration will make purchases on the best terms obtainable by fair and just methods with full recognition of the principle that a Government agency with large purchasing power must be particularly careful not even to attempt action which would be regarded as oppressive."

"The carrying out of this policy will not justify 'reductions in wages' as Mr. Peek indicates nor 'increasing prices to the public.' On the contrary the public will greatly benefit by the Railroad Administration's refusal to approve these unreasonably high prices."

Five Cleveland Plants Close.

CLEVELAND, April 11.—Five plants, constituting the entire works of the Thompson-Kunda Company, manufacturers of automobile bodies, were closed to-day, throwing more than 1,200 men and women out of employment, due, company officials say, to agitation among the workers for a wage advance of 19 cents an hour and a six-hour day.

Broadway

Saks & Company

In the Heart of New York—Direct by Subway, Tube and "L."

at 34th St.



In a Very Important Easter Presentation Today

300 Women's Smart Spring Suits Special at \$39.50

There are twenty distinct styles in the collection, four as pictured, all exact reproductions of our higher-priced models. The majority are in Sports and Dressy effects, but there is also a good selection of smart tailored styles. Fashioned of

Tricotine, Silvertone, Pencil Stripes, Serges, Tweeds, Heather Mixtures, Shepherd and Callot Checks and Poirer Twill

with vestees or Gilets of contrasting color material. Each suit handsomely silk lined. Sizes 34 to 44, and several models to 50½.

4th Floor

Seldom Equalled!

Women's Embroidered & Tailored Wool Jersey Frocks

Special

\$19.50



The ideal frock for early Spring wear. Just warm enough, and not too heavy.

Cut along the very fashionable straight lines, some beautifully embroidered, others in tailored effect with button trimming.

Fashioned of good quality Wool Jersey, in Tan, Reindeer, and Navy Blue.

As individual as those for Big Sister Smart Capes for Girls



At \$9.75

At \$12.75

Quaint, but real girlish vestee capes of fine Serge, cleverly belted, showing deep yoke and rows of buttons for trimming. Splendid values. Sizes 6 to 10 years. Illustrated.

Exquisite circular-model capes with shawl collar overlaid with silk foulard, and new vestee front. Beautifully tailored in Men's Wear Serge. Sizes 10 to 16 years. Illustrated.

For Eastertide—

Dainty Taffeta Frocks for Girls at \$11.75

Sizes 8 to 16 years. An entirely new model, with novelty hand-embroidered pockets, sash and buckle. Fashioned of Lustrous Taffeta in Copenhagen Blue, Rose and Navy.

Skillful Copies of

SILVER FRAME BAGS

in a Special Sale

Today \$4.95

Reproduction of costly imported bags of a most exclusive character. The 6½ inch oval frames with chains are stamped in relief, and are not only novel but quite different to anything before shown at this low price.

The bag may be had in Moire or Faille Silk, lined with shot silk and finished with silk tassels.

Main Floor

SATURDAY—

Boys' Superbly Tailored SUITS

in exclusive Saks Models

At \$21



With one or two pairs of knickers, according to style. These suits are so much above average that only by actually seeing them can you really acquire any idea of their splendid character. Tailored in fine Woolens, selected because of their absolute dependability, in a variety of new colorings. Sizes 8 to 18 years.

A Remarkable Purchase Makes Possible Today

A Sale of Boys' Suits Special at \$12.75

Extra knickers with each suit. The styles are in semi-Norfolk and the new waist-steam effects, carefully tailored in a wide range of serviceable Mixtures. Suits in this quality would be excellent value at much higher prices. Sizes 8 to 18 years.

Every Boy Wants a "Blue Serge" Suit

We offer a splendidly tailored suit of All Wool Navy Blue Serge today, in a very snappy boyish model. Special at \$15

Women's Beautiful Dolman

Wraps, Capes and Coats

—the most charming introduced for Spring

Priced Very Low
Saturday

At \$22.50—A large collection of Cape-Coats and Capes, in Dolman and circular effects, carefully developed in Wool Velour and Men's Wear Serge. Unequaled at \$22.50.

At \$29.50—Handsome Dolman Wraps and Street Coats of rare beauty, exact reproductions of much-costlier models. Skillfully developed in Men's Wear Serge, Gabardine, Velour de Laine and Poplin.

At \$39.50—A most exquisite collection of the very newest Dolmans, capes and utility coats, with convertible throw scarfs and adjustable collars. Beautifully tailored in Tricotine, Duvet de Laine, Gabardine and Serges, some silk braid trimmed.



\$29.50

We Have Made Unusual Preparation to Present Today
On the Second Floor

A Magnificent Collection of

Misses' Spring Suits at \$49.50

Paris-inspired Suits in clever Blouse, Box Coat, Waistcoat, Sport and Mannish tailors, handsomely embroidered in Japanese effects, or with braid and button trimmings.

Tricotine, Poirer Twill, Fine Serge, Wool Jersey, Imported Tweeds and Black and White Checks.

Many with chic Gilets of contrasting color silk or Tricolette. Sizes 14 to 18 years. One style pictured.

For Saturday Only—

Fashionable Satin

Frocks

For Misses at \$25

Dainty frocks, of rare charm and individuality, designed especially for the youthful Miss.

The model illustrated is in the very successful slip-over effect, embellished with Chenille embroidery, in two-tone colorings.

Other beautiful styles at \$25 are in Lustrous Taffeta,orgette Crepe and Fine Serge. Sizes 14 to 18 years.



Saks & Company

Direct Especial Attention Today to
a Superb Collection of

Misses' Capes, Sports Coats and Wrap Coats at \$39.50

A more inclusive collection of Coats and Wraps for Misses cannot be found. The styles are decidedly youthful, and thoroughly in accord with Fashion's newest edicts. Developed in soft, rich Velours, Silvertone, Fine Serges, Coverlets, and Velveteens, lined with plain or figured silks. Sizes 14 to 18 years.

New Easter Hats for Girls

Special \$5.75

Real, girlish styles, in smart braids trimmed with flowers and ribbon novelties. Splendid variety of shapes, the values in each case being most exceptional. One style pictured.



Also—A wide variety of Tailored Hats at \$3 to \$5

Fox Scarfs

are among the most favored of Summer furs. Today, Saks & Company offer handsome Fox Scarfs in double fur effect or satin lined—Taupe, Kamchatka or Poirer shades—

Very Special

At \$42.50

For Saturday Only—

Wolf Scarfs

In both satin lined and double fur effects. Nothing like them in town at this price.

Special \$35



Beginning This Morning—A Wonderful

Sale of 1,200 Women's Sweaters

That Sell Regularly at \$6.50 to \$10

Special \$3.95

This is a splendid opportunity to secure a really good sweater, absolutely perfect, at half price or less! The styles are unusually clever, knit in open and close stitch, of fine Zephyr Wool, Shetland Wool, and rich Fibre Silks. Note the wide range of colors—Old Rose, Turquoise, Corn, Buff, Navy Blue, Black, Purple and Orchid.

For general or sports wear—your sweater is here! Five of twenty charming styles pictured.